

1 AN ACT relating to the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 164.7879 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Kentucky educational excellence scholarship awards shall be based upon an
5 established base scholarship amount and an eligible high school student's grade
6 point average. The base scholarship amount for students attaining

7 ***(a)*** A grade point average of at least 2.5 for academic years~~[the]~~ 1998-1999
8 through 2023-2024~~[academic year]~~ shall be as follows:

9	GPA	Amount	GPA	Amount
10	2.50	\$125.00	3.30	\$325.00
11	2.60	\$150.00	3.40	\$350.00
12	2.70	\$175.00	3.50	\$375.00
13	2.75	\$187.00	3.60	\$400.00
14	2.80	\$200.00	3.70	\$425.00
15	2.90	\$225.00	3.75	\$437.00
16	3.00	\$250.00	3.80	\$450.00
17	3.10	\$275.00	3.90	\$475.00
18	3.20	\$300.00	4.00	\$500.00
19	3.25	\$312.00		

20 The authority shall review the base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence
21 scholarship each academic year and may promulgate an administrative regulation to
22 make adjustments after considering the availability of funds; ***and***

23 ***(b)*** A grade point average of at least 3.0 beginning with the 2024-2025
24 academic year that shall be as follows:

25	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Amount</u>
26	<u>3.00</u>	<u>\$264.00</u>	<u>3.60</u>	<u>\$414.00</u>
27	<u>3.10</u>	<u>\$289.00</u>	<u>3.70</u>	<u>\$439.00</u>

1	<u>3.20</u>	<u>\$314.00</u>	<u>3.75</u>	<u>\$451.00</u>
2	<u>3.25</u>	<u>\$326.00</u>	<u>3.80</u>	<u>\$464.00</u>
3	<u>3.30</u>	<u>\$339.00</u>	<u>3.90</u>	<u>\$489.00</u>
4	<u>3.40</u>	<u>\$364.00</u>	<u>4.00</u>	<u>\$514.00</u>
5	<u>3.50</u>	<u>\$389.00</u>		

6 The authority shall review the base amount of the Kentucky educational
7 excellence scholarship each academic year and may promulgate an
8 administrative regulation to make adjustments after considering the availability
9 of funds.

10 (2) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student the
11 base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship for each
12 academic year of high school study in the Kentucky educational excellence
13 scholarship curriculum that the high school student has attained at least a
14 3.0~~[2.5]~~ grade point average. The award shall be based upon the eligible high
15 school student's grade point average at the close of each academic year. An
16 award attributable to a past academic year shall not be increased after the
17 award has been earned by an eligible high school student, regardless of any
18 subsequent increases made to the base amount of the Kentucky educational
19 excellence scholarship through the promulgation of an administrative
20 regulation by the authority.

21 (b) Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and "high
22 school" in KRS 164.7874, any high school student who maintains Kentucky
23 residency and completes the academic courses that are required for a
24 Kentucky educational excellence scholarship while participating in an
25 approved educational high school foreign exchange program or participating
26 in the United States Congressional Page School may apply his or her grade
27 point average for that academic year toward the base as described in

1 paragraph (a) of this subsection. The grade point average shall be reported by
2 the student's Kentucky home high school, based on an official transcript from
3 the school that the student attended during the out-of-state educational
4 experience. The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations that
5 describe the approval process for the educational exchange programs that
6 qualify under this paragraph. The provisions in this paragraph shall likewise
7 apply to any Kentucky high school student who participated in an approved
8 educational exchange program or in a Congressional Page School since the
9 1998-99 school year and maintained his or her Kentucky residency
10 throughout.

- 11 (c) 1. Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and
12 "high school" in KRS 164.7874 and the requirement that a student
13 graduate from a Kentucky high school, a high school student who
14 completes the KEES curriculum while attending an accredited out-of-
15 state high school or Department of Defense school may apply the grade
16 point average for any applicable academic year toward the base as
17 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection and shall also qualify for a
18 supplemental award under subsection (3) of this section when:
- 19 a. His or her custodial parent or guardian is in active service of the
20 Armed Forces of the United States;
 - 21 b. The student attended an accredited out-of-state high school or a
22 Department of Defense school as a result of the custodial parent's
23 or guardian's military transfer outside of Kentucky; and
 - 24 c. The student earned a KEES base amount at a Kentucky high
25 school prior to the custodial parent's or guardian's military transfer
26 outside of Kentucky.
- 27 2. The student or parent shall arrange for the out-of-state school to report

1 the student's grade point average each academic year and the student's
 2 highest ACT score to the authority as required under KRS 164.7885.
 3 The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations implementing
 4 the requirements in this paragraph, including:

- 5 a. The documentation that the parent shall submit to the authority
 6 establishing the student's eligibility for the scholarship; and
- 7 b. The assurances that an out-of-state institution shall submit to the
 8 authority for submission of the student grade point average.

9 3. The provisions in this paragraph shall apply to the 2001-2002 school
 10 year and thereafter.

11 (d) Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, a student who meets the
 12 Kentucky core academic standards for high school graduation established in
 13 administrative regulation and graduates after completing three (3) years of
 14 high school shall receive a Kentucky educational excellence scholarship
 15 award equivalent to completing high school in four (4) years. The award shall
 16 be determined by dividing the total actual KEES scholarship earned under
 17 subsection (1) of this section by three (3) and multiplying that number by four
 18 (4). The resulting number shall be the annual award the student is eligible for
 19 under subsection (1) of this section.

20 (3) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student
 21 graduating from high school before June 30, 1999, and achieving a score of at
 22 least 15 on the American College Test, a supplemental award for the award
 23 period beginning in the fall of 1999, based on the eligible high school
 24 student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from high
 25 school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as follows:

26	ACT	Annual	ACT	Annual
27	Score	Bonus	Score	Bonus

1	15	\$21	22	\$171
2	16	\$43	23	\$193
3	17	\$64	24	\$214
4	18	\$86	25	\$236
5	19	\$107	26	\$257
6	20	\$129	27	\$279
7	21	\$150	28 or above	\$300

8 Subsequent supplemental awards for eligible high school students graduating
 9 before June 30, 1999, shall be determined in accordance with the provisions
 10 of paragraph (b) of this subsection.

11 (b) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student
 12 upon achievement after June 30, 1999, of an ACT score of at least 15 on the
 13 American College Test a supplemental award based on the eligible high
 14 school student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from
 15 high school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as
 16 follows:

17	ACT		ACT	
18	Score	Amount	Score	Amount
19	15	\$36	22	\$286
20	16	\$71	23	\$321
21	17	\$107	24	\$357
22	18	\$143	25	\$393
23	19	\$179	26	\$428
24	20	\$214	27	\$464
25	21	\$250	28 and above	\$500

26 The authority shall review the base amount of the supplemental award
 27 beginning with the 2001-2002 academic year and each academic year

1 thereafter and may promulgate an administrative regulation to make
2 adjustments after considering the availability of funds.

3 (c) Beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year, the authority shall commit to
4 provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for Advanced
5 Placement or International Baccalaureate as defined in KRS 164.002 to an
6 eligible high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-
7 price lunch for any year during high school enrollment.

8 1. The supplemental award for AP examination scores are as follows:

9 a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of three (3);

10 b. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of four (4); and

11 c. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of five (5).

12 2. The supplemental award for IB examination scores are as follows:

13 a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of five (5);

14 b. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of six (6); and

15 c. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of seven (7).

16 (d) Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, the authority shall commit to
17 provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for
18 Cambridge Advanced International as defined in KRS 164.002 to an eligible
19 high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-priced
20 lunch for any year during high school enrollment. The supplemental award for
21 Cambridge Advanced International examination scores are as follows:

22 1. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of "e";

23 2. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of "c" or "d"; and

24 3. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of "a*", "a", or "b".

25 (e) The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the
26 eligibility criteria and procedures for making a supplemental award to
27 Kentucky residents who are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the

1 United States and who graduate from a nonpublic secondary school not
2 certified by the Kentucky Board of Education and Kentucky residents who are
3 citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States and who obtain
4 a High School Equivalency Diploma within five (5) years of their high school
5 graduating class, and students under subsection (2)(c) of this section who do
6 not attend an accredited high school.